PATENT Docket KPT/003

What is claimed is:

- 1. A data acquisition system comprising:
 - a memory;
 - a processor coupled to the memory; and
- a first communication port adapted for coupling to a vessel navigation system; and
- a switch, when actuated in response to an event, causes information retrieved from the vessel navigation system to be stored in memory.
- 2. The data acquisition system of claim 1 further comprising a display.
- 3. The data acquisition system of claim 2, wherein the display displays at least one entry line having at least a date and a position associated with the event.
- 4. The data acquisition system of claim 1 further comprises at least one of a sounder, a radar or a chart plotter.
- 5. The data acquisition system of claim 1 further comprising:
 - an enclosure housing the memory and processor; and
- a second communication port coupled to the enclosure configured to communicate with a device remote from the enclosure.
- 6. The data acquisition system of claim 5, wherein the second communication port is configured to transfer information at least one of optical communication, wireless communication, via a modem or via a land-line.
- 7. The data acquisition system of claim 6, wherein the first communication port is coupled to a network comprising the vessel navigation system includes at least one of a sounder, a chart plotter, a radar and a digital bearing indicator.

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- 8. The data acquisition system of claim 1 further comprising:
- a remote device selectively in communication with the memory through the second communication port.
- 9. The data acquisition system of claim 8, wherein the remote device is at least one of a PDA, laptop or computer.
- 10. A data acquisition system comprising:
- a vessel navigation system having at least one of a sounder, a chart plotter, a radar and a digital bearing indicator; and
- a data acquisition system coupled to the vessel navigation system and having a memory configured to store thereon a date and information retrieved from the vessel navigation system in response to an event.
- 11. A method for acquiring fishing data, comprising: generating a signal in response to an event; and automatically storing date and vessel position in a memory disposed on board a vessel in response to the signal.
- 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the step of generating the signal further comprising manually actuating a switch.
- 13. The method of claim 11 further comprising:
- storing information from a vessel navigation system in the memory in response to the signal.
- 14. The method of claim 13, wherein the step of storing information further comprises storing at least one of water temperature, heading, speed and depth.
- 15. The method of claim 11 further comprising: manually entering a information associated with the event.

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- 16. The method of claim 11 further comprising:transferring the stored information to a remote device.
- 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the step of transferring further comprises establishing optical, wireless or land-line communication between the remote device and the memory on board the vessel.
- 18. The method of claim 11 further comprising building a database of information associated with events.
- 19. The method of claim 18 further comprising performing statistical analysis on the event information stored in the database.
- 20. The method of claim 18 further comprising displaying a selected event from the database.

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